

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 246194

FOLLOWING REPEAT BUCHAREST 5207 ACTION SECSTATE DTD 14 OCT

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 5207

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEWT, CVIS, PFOR, RO

SUBJECT: ROMANIANS WITH EXIT PERMITS FOR THE U.S.

REF: STATE 241908

1. EMBASSY HAS EXAMINED 30 KNOWN CASES ON FILE OF ROMANIANS WHO HAVE BEEN ISSUED EXIT PERMITS BUT ARE NOT QUALIFIED FOR DIRECT ENTRY INTO US. FOLLOWING IS PROFILE OF THIS GROUP BASED ON INFORMATION CURRENTLY AVAILABLE.

A. RELIGIOUS AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION: THIS IS DIFFICULT TO PROVIDE FOR TWO REASONS:
ROMANIANS ARE RELUCTANT TO REVEAL RELIGIOUS AND ETHNIC ORIGINS, AND EVEN TAKE STEPS TO CONCEAL THIS BY ROMANIZING THEIR NAMES. JEWS, FOR EXAMPLE, WITH NAMES LIKE BOGDAN AND POPESCU ARE VERY COMMON. RELIGIOUS DETERMINATION IS ALSO DIFFICULT TO ARRIVE AT IN COUNTRY WHERE RELIGION, WHILE TOLERATED, IS CERTAINLY NOT
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ENCOURAGED. THE TASK IS MADE MORE COMPLICATED BECAUSE

EMBASSY USES NO FORMS REQUESTING SUCH INFORMATION. FOR THESE REASONS FOLLOWING ARE ONLY APPROXIMATE ESTIMATES:

PERCENTAGE BY RELIGION

JEWISH.....8 PERCENT
ORTHODOX (INCLUDING ARMENIAN)..36 PERCENT

PROTESTANT OR CATHOLIC.....20 PERCENT
UNKNOWN.....36 PERCENT

PERCENTAGE BY NATIONALITY

HUNGARIAN.....20 PERCENT
JEWISH.....8 PERCENT
GERMAN.....3 PERCENT
ARMENIAN.....8 PERCENT
ROMANIAN, OR NOT OTHERWISE
IDENTIFIABLE.....61 PERCENT

B. WORKING BACKGROUND: MOST OF INELIGIBLES ARE BLUE-COLLAR OR WHITE-COLLAR WORKERS SEEKING TO BETTER MATERIAL CONDITION OF LIFE BY EMIGRATING. THEY INCLUDE FARMERS, OFFICE-WORKERS, MACHINISTS, AND FACTORY WORKERS. VERY FEW ARE PROFESSIONALS SUCH AS DOCTORS, LAWYERS, OR ENGINEERS.

PERCENTAGE BY PROFESSION

PROFESSIONALS.....5 PERCENT
WHITE COLLAR.....13 PERCENT
BLUE COLLAR.....20 PERCENT
NON-WORKING FORCE.....62 PERCENT

C. THE PERCENTAGE OF PERSONS WHO ENTER THE LABOR FORCE IN THE U.S. WILL PROBABLY BE SLIGHTLY BELOW 38 PERCENT. IT SHOULD BE KEPT IN MIND THAT IN ROMANIA BOTH HUSBAND AND WIFE USUALLY WORK BECAUSE OF LOW WAGE LEVELS.

D. VERY FEW MEMBERS IN THIS CATEGORY HAVE BEEN MEMBERS OF THE ROMANIAN COMMUNIST PARTY. AMONG THE 30 CASES ONLY
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THREE PERSONS HAVE ADMITTED MEMBERSHIP IN THE PARTY.

E. BASED ON PAST EXPERIENCE IT WILL BE VERY DIFFICULT FOR THESE THREE PERSONS TO OBTAIN WAIVERS IF GRANTED TEMPORARY ENTRY INTO THE US. INS NORMALLY REFUSES 70 PERCENT OF SUCH CASES WHEN SUCH REQUESTS ARE MADE THROUGH ITS VIENNA OFFICE. WE HAVE ALREADY INFORMED THESE PERSONS THAT WE ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO ASSIST THEM UNLESS THEY

QUALIFY THROUGH PETITIONS APPROVED BY INS.

F. COMPOSITION BY AGE AND SEX:

BY AGE

1-10 YEARS OLD.....8 PERCENT
10-20.....8
20-30.....28
30-40.....22
40-50.....24
50-60.....5
MORE THAN 60.....5

BY SEX

MALE.....49
FEMALE.....51

G. IN ALL BY 28 PERCENT OF THE CASES THE INELIGIBLES DO HAVE FIRST DEGREE RELATIVES WHO WILL BE ABLE TO FILE PETITIONS FOR THEM WITHIN THE NEXT TWO YEARS. A LISTING OF RELATIONSHIP OF INELIGIBLES WITH RELATIVES ALREADY IN US IS SHOWN BELOW. A PRIMARY SOURCE OF DIFFICULTY FOR THE OTHERS IS THAT MORE THAN 50 PERCENT OF THEIR RELATIVES CURRENTLY IN US ENTERED ON A CONDITIONAL BASIS AND HAVE TO WAIT TWO YEARS BEFORE THEY CAN FILE PETITIONS AS RESIDENT ALIENS, AND FIVE YEARS BEFORE BECOMING US CITIZENS.

RELATIONSHIP TO PERSONS IN US

BROTHERS AND SISTERS.....40 PERCENT
FATHERS AND MOTHERS.....27
SONS AND DAUGHTERS.....3
HUSBANDS OR WIVES.....2
AUNTS OR UNCLES.....13
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COUSINS.....15

2. WISH TO REITERATE OUR APPRECIATION FOR EXPEDITIOUS MANNER IN WHICH DEPT IS HANDLING THIS PROBLEM GIVEN SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME REMAINING BEFORE EXIT PERMITS EXPIRE FOR THIS GROUP.
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